



Alameda County Coroner's Bureau  
Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff/Coroner  
2901 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605  
(510) 382-3000

## Coroner Investigator's Report

CALL INFO	NAME OF DECEASED (LAST, FIRST MIDDLE) <b>BASLEE JR., Lawrence Edward</b>			TENTATIVE I UNIDENTIFIED		CASE NUMBER <b>2014-00490</b>		
	REPORTED BY <b>Kelly Shannon</b>		REPORTED BY PHONE		REPORTING AGENCY <b>Valley Care Medical Center</b>		REFERENCE NUMBER	
	INVESTIGATOR <b>TIM ENGEL</b>		CALL DATE AND TIME <b>2/12/2014 0234</b>		CASE TYPE <b>Removal Case</b>			
	DATE AND TIME OF DEATH <b>2/12/2014 0214</b>		DATE OF BIRTH <b>1/12/1958</b>	AGE <b>56 Years</b>	GENDER <b>Male</b>	RACE <b>Caucasian/White</b>	MARITAL STATUS <b>Never Married</b>	VET
DECEDENT	HGT	WGT	EYE COLOR <b>Brown</b>	HAIR COLOR <b>Brown</b>	OCCUPATION <b>Service Station Attendant</b>	EMPLOYER		
	<b>Preliminary Summary:</b>							
DEATH	LOCATION OF DEATH <b>Valley Care Medical Center</b>					LOC TYPE <b>HOSP</b>		
	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP) <b>5555 W. Las Positas Boulevard, Pleasanton, CA, 94588</b>					COUNTY <b>Alameda</b>		
	Manner <b>Natural</b>		Death Certificate Signed By					
	Cause A	<b>massive esophageal variceal hemorrhage</b>					Interval	Hours
	Cause B	<b>micronodular cirrhosis</b>					Interval	Months
	Cause C						Interval	
	Cause D						Interval	
NOTIFIC.	LEGAL NEXT OF KIN [REDACTED]		RELATIONSHIP [REDACTED]		TELEPHONE NO.			
	NOTIFIED BY <b>Tim Engel</b>		METHOD <b>Coroner/in person</b>		DATE AND TIME			
	IDENTIFICATION METHOD <b>Finger Prints</b>		DATE AND TIME <b>2/14/2014 0124</b>					
	LOCATION OF INCIDENT <b>Alameda County Sheriff's Office-ETS</b>		INV AGENCY PHONE NUMBER		OFFICER			
INCIDENT	ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)					COUNTY		DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT
	INVESTIGATING AGENCY <b>Alameda County Sheriff's Office-ETS</b>					INV AGENCY PHONE NUMBER		OFFICER
	FUNERAL HOME <b>NAUTILUS SOCIETY</b>					BODY RELEASE TO FUNERAL HOME ON <b>2/18/2014 1512</b>		
DISP	Full Autopsy Partial Autopsy Inspection Record Review Inspection w/Specimen					EXAM BY <b>JOHN IOCCO</b>		



**Alameda County Sheriff's Office**

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**Coroner's Bureau, 480 4th Street, Oakland, CA**

**94607-3829**

**(510) 268-7300 / (510) 268-7333 (fax)**

### **Investigator Narrative**

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**Decedent:** **BASLEE JR., Lawrence Edward**

**Case Number:** **2014-00490**

**Investigator:** **Tim Engel**

#### **First Call Information:**

On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, about 0220 hours, I (ENGEL) received a phone call from Nurse K. SHANNON of the Valley Medical Center Emergency Room (ER). SHANNON called to report the death of Lawrence Edward BASLEE JR., a 56 year old male. According to SHANNON, on February, 11, 2014, about 2200 hours, BASLEE JR. was transported from Santa Rita Jail to Valley Care ER via an ambulance. He had complaints of vomiting blood and dark stools. Although initially speaking with medical staff, in the ER, the decedent went unresponsive multiple times after vomiting blood. Several times, the decedent was revived and was given units of blood. On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, about 0100 hours, the decedent was being moved out of the ER and into the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). As medical staff moved him out of his treatment room, blood began pouring out of the decedent's mouth and nose. BASLEE JR. again went unresponsive and medical staff attempted life saving measures but they were unsuccessful and death was pronounced at 0214 hours. There were no signs of trauma or foul play. According to SHANNON, the decedent had a history of [REDACTED] Admission blood was drawn at the hospital. The NOK were unknown and BASLEE JR. was believed to be a transient.





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About 0249 hours, I contacted Lieutenant R. BOWERS and notified him of the death and he agreed to pass the information along to command staff.

**Medical Summary:**

According to SHANNON, the decedent had a history of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Five vials of admission blood were recovered from the hospital and were placed with the body for pathologist examination.

**Description of the Death/ Injury Scene:**

On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, about 0345 hours, Deputy M. MONAGHAN #1661 and I (ENGEL) arrived at Valley Care ER. We were met by Deputy R. GALVEZ # 2004 and we were escorted over to exam room #4 where a curtain was obstructing view into the room. I pulled the curtain back and saw the decedent lying on his back on the hospital bed. He was clad in his jail issued red clothing and had his jail issued identification bracelet around his left wrist. Multiple medical therapies were in place. I saw what appeared to be blood on the decedent's face and clothing. A large pool of blood was next to the decedent's bed. His abdomen appeared distended. The decedent's pants were down near his ankles and I observed a catheter had been placed for urine collection. I did not observe any signs of trauma on the decedent. The decedent's skin was warm to the touch. Rigor mortis and livor mortis were not detected in the decedent. MONAGHAN took digital photographs of the scene and the decedent. I placed paper bags over the decedent's hands and secured them with plastic ties. We moved the decedent over to our gurney and placed him into the Coroner's van. I recovered 5 vials of admission blood and medical records and left for the Bureau.

Upon our arrival at the Bureau, I processed the decedent into the morgue and digital intake photographs were taken at that time.



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**Body Identification:**

BASLEE JR. was identified by his jail identification bracelet around his left wrist.

On February 14, 2014, I (HOVDA) received a letter from the Alameda County Central Identification Bureau (CIB) confirming that the fingerprints taken from the decedent was associated with Person File Number: [REDACTED] with the name Lawrence Edward BASLEE Jr. (JSH#1432)

**Next of Kin Investigation:**

The decedent's records indicate the decedent may have lived in a residence in [REDACTED]. A follow up was placed in CME to attempt to locate and notify any next of kin at this address.

On Sunday, February 16, 2014, about 1920 hours, Deputy M. MONAGHAN #1661 and I (ENGEL) arrived at the decedent's address in [REDACTED]. We met with [REDACTED], the decedent's sister. I notified her of the death and explained the Coroner's involvement. [REDACTED] told me Lawrence was never married and had no children. His parents were deceased making [REDACTED] his legal NOK.

**Other Agency Reports:**

Alameda County Sherriff's Office (ACSO) personnel have assigned report # 14-002638 to this case. Sergeant J. SOUZA # 1445 was writing the report for this case and Deputy R. GALVEZ # 2004 was writing a supplement to this report.

**Property and Evidence:**





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I (ENGEL) issued Coroner's receipt #'s 34584 and 34585 for this case. All property and monies were secured at the Bureau per policy and procedure.

**Coroners Fees:**

\$321.00 in Coroner fees apply to this case so far. The decedent's sister, [REDACTED] was given a Coroner's pre-printed Information pamphlet in which fees were explained. [REDACTED] stated she understood and would pay the fees through her selected mortuary.

On Friday, February 21, 2014, the fees were paid in full on this case.

**Other Investigative Details/ Supplemental Information:**

According to Santa Rita Jail records, BASLEE JR. had been booked into custody on January 23, 2014 and was placed into Administrative Segregation the same day. He remained there until he was taken to the hospital on February 11, 2014 at 2200 hours.

**Findings:**



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On Tuesday, March 04, 2014, about 0004 hours, I (ENGEL) reviewed this case in order to determine the manner of death. The cause of death given in this case was massive [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Based upon the decedent's medical history and the cause of death given, I determined the manner to be natural. (TPE1611)

**Supervisor Review:**

On March 31, 2014, I (Sergeant P. Wilson) reviewed this case for closure. I agree with the findings and consider this case closed. (PW#1494)



CVT-14-2911

**Case Name:**

Baslee Jr,

**TOXICOLOGY NUMBER:**

E.

Lawrence  
Hospital sample: 5.5 ml blood (3 vials) labeled "Baslee Jr, Lawrence; 2014-00490;  
02/13/2014; MRN 682835; VST 302600986; DOB 01/12/1958 02/11/14; 2215 hrs;

**Specimen Description:** JR"

**Delivered by** Tricor

**Date** 14-Feb-14

**Received by** Bill Posey

**Date** 14-Feb-14

**Request:** Complete Drug Screen

**Agency Case #** 2014-00490

**Requesting Agency**

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office  
Attn: Acct's Payable  
480 4th Street  
Oakland CA 94607

**Report To**

Alameda Co. Coroner's Office  
Attn: Dr. Iocco  
480 4th Street  
Oakland CA 94607

**RESULTS**

Specimen: Hospital Blood (Lavender Top Vial-2/11/14, 2215 hrs) Sample

Complete Drug Screen: Naproxen detected.

No other common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected.

No Ethyl Alcohol detected.

Naproxen = 13 mg/L

ENTERED  
3/18/14

Blood Naproxen      Ranges  
Effective Level:      (15 - 90 mg/L)  
Potentially Toxic:      Not Known



B. L. Posey

March 03, 2014

**B.L. POSEY**  
**S.N. KIMBLE**  
*Directors*

1580 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93611  
Phone (559) 323-9940  
Fax (559) 323-7502

# Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Coroner's Bureau  
480 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, CA 94607-3829



## Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Director of Emergency Services  
Coroner - Marshal

### M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 13, 2014  
FROM: John Iocco, M.D.  
TO: Case File 2014-00490  
SUBJECT: AUTOPSY PROTOCOL

Autopsy performed upon the body of Lawrence Edward Baslee Jr. at the Coroner's Bureau, 480 4th Street, Oakland, California, on February 13, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

### AUTOPSY FINDINGS

- 1) MICRONODULAR CIRRHOSIS.
- 2) BILATERAL PLEURAL EFFUSIONS, PERICARDIAL EFFUSION, AND ASCITES.
- 3) VARICES, ESOPHAGUS.
- 4) MASSIVE UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL HEMORRHAGE DUE TO VARICES.

CAUSE OF DEATH: MASSIVE ESOPHAGEAL VARICEAL HEMORRHAGE DUE TO MICRONODULAR CIRRHOSIS.

cc: EMS  
District Attorney  
Investigations Bureau



Sheriff-Coroner  
Alameda County

Body of LAWRENCE EDWARD BASLEE JR.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

The body, identified by a coroner's identification tag, is that of a mild-to-moderately obese light-skinned male appearing the stated age. Height is 67 inches; weight, 196 pounds. Hair is brown-gray. Eyes are brown.

There is the following evidence of MEDICAL THERAPY:

1) An airway is secured by a Velcro belt in the mouth.

2) Monitoring defibrillation pads are present over the torso and arms.

3) The urethra is catheterized.

4) A bone marrow infusion is noted in the left superior anterior tibia.

Dried blood is present around the face, including the nose, mouth, and neck.

A 1-inch superficial laceration is present over the left anterior lower forehead.

The trachea is midline.

The thorax shows a slight increase in anterior-posterior diameter.

The sclerae are white.

The lower chest and abdominal skin appear to be hyperpigmented. Multiple freckles are noted over the skin,

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Body of LAWRENCE EDWARD BASLEE JR.

23 particularly the upper thighs.

24 The back is clear.

25 No scars are noted over accessible veins/ no binding  
26 indentations.

27 Various tattoos present over the upper and lower body have  
28 been photographed.

29 INTERNAL EXAMINATION

30 PRIMARY INCISION AND BODY CAVITIES: The usual Y-SHAPED  
31 THORACOABDOMINAL INCISION demonstrates an approximate 2-inch  
32 thickness to the umbilical fat. Each pleural cavity has  
33 approximately 250 cc of pink watery fluid. Peritoneum has  
34 approximately 750 cc of similar fluid. Pericardium has approxi-  
35 mately 50 cc of similar fluid.

36 HEART: The heart weighs 390 grams. Moderate stenosis of  
37 the aortic valve is noted, due to a fibrotic calcific thickening  
38 of the midaortic cusp. No valvular vegetations/ no coronary  
39 thrombi/ no significant coronary stenosis. Myocardium is 1.5 cm  
40 in maximal thickness. No recent or healed infarctions.

41 LUNGS: Left lung weighs 550 grams; right lung weighs 580  
42 grams. A small amount of aspirated blood is noted. No foreign  
43 body aspiration/ no cavitation/ no induration/ no mass/ no  
44 nodules.



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Body of LAWRENCE EDWARD BASLEE JR.

45 STOMACH contains approximately 16 ounces of blood admixed  
46 with 2- to 5-cm segments of hotdog. No particulate matter/ no  
47 ulcers/ no perforation.

48 SMALL AND LARGE INTESTINES show marked blood distention.  
49 No masses/ no nodules/ no ulcers/ no perforation.

50 LIVER: Weighs 2250 grams and shows diffuse  
51 micronodularity, with nodules all less than 1 cm. Incised  
52 surfaces are firm and yellow. No masses/ no necrosis/ no cysts.

53 GALLBLADDER: Contains approximately 2 ounces of green  
54 bile. Mucosa and wall are normal, free of calculi.

55 PANCREAS: Has a brownish-tan, lobular architecture. No  
56 hemorrhage/ no masses/ no trauma.

57 KIDNEYS: Each kidney weighs 150 grams. Scattered  
58 depressed scars and small cysts are noted. Capsules strip with  
59 ease, revealing smooth cortices. Medullae and calyces are  
60 unremarkable. The ureters are thin-walled, following the usual  
61 anatomic course to the urinary bladder.

62 The urinary bladder has no urine, is catheterized.

63 ADRENAL GLANDS: Physiologic.

64 SPLEEN: Weighs 300 grams, has a smooth, red incised  
65 surface.

66 NECK ORGANS: The hyoid bone and cartilages of the larynx

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Body of LAWRENCE EDWARD BASLEE JR.

67 and trachea are intact, free of fracture. Esophagus shows  
68 elevated linear red mucosa, consistent with esophageal varices.  
69 No ulcers/ no mass/ no nodules/ no perforation. The upper  
70 airway (trachea and larynx) show a small amount of blood clot.

71 HEAD: The scalp is reflected, revealing no evidence of  
72 hemorrhage in the subcutaneous tissue or galea. The calvarium  
73 is normocephalic, free of fracture. The dura is thin and  
74 fibrous. The leptomeninges are thin, delicate and transparent.  
75 The brain weighs 1310 grams. The gyri are flat. The sulci are  
76 narrowed. The ventricular fluid is clear. The brain stem,  
77 cerebellum and cerebral hemispheres show no herniation,  
78 hemorrhage, or space-occupying lesion.

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84 JI/cah

  
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John Iocco, M.D.